THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI I.D. SWAMI): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Questions do not arise.

Mulund bomb blast in Mumbai

2831. SHRI SAN JAY NIRUPAM: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) how many were killed and injured in Mulund bomb blast in Mumbai on 13th March, 2003;

(b) whether Government have found any terrorist outfit responsible for that; and

(c) if so, the action taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI HARIN PATHAK): (a) 11 commuters were killed and 82 were injured in Mulund bomb blast in Mumbai.

(b) The Government has found linkages of Lashkar-e-Toiba, a terrorist organization based in Pakistan, with the prepetrators responsible for the Mulund bomb blast.

(c) On 29.3.2003,3 terrorists of Lashkar-e-Toiba connected with the Mulund bomb blast were killed by the Mumbai Police in exchange of fire at Jogeshwari.

Criticism for invoking POTA

2832. SHRI NILOTPAL BASU : Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state :

(a) whether it is a fact that number of criticism has been made about the appropriateness of invoking POTA in a number of cases particularly pertaining to Tamil Nadu, Uttar Pradesh and Jharkhand etc.;

(b) if so, the nature and substance of these criticism and other details arising thereof;

(c) the Government's assessment about the genuineness of these criticisms; and